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lows: (a) Education; (b) Religion; (c) Poetry; (d) Art. The influence upon character of climate, mountains, coasts, islands, seas and of mere size of area (roominess) are all pointed out as potent factors. It is of interest to note that the author considers size of area to have been one of the most important influences upon the character of the North American. The facility of movement, the desire to accomplish unusual things, the apparent boundlessness of his plans both in business and politics, the joy in "making possible the impossible" and the mania for undertaking monumental works in technical fields, are all attributed to the mere bigness of the American's environment.

The discussion of the various religions of peoples as influenced by the surface conditions and the atmosphere is well worth reading closely. The effect of the elements upon the poetry of peoples is also striking. Even in Art the author finds that not only has nature exercised a controlling influence in the style in ages past but also in the spread of styles to various parts of the earth. Even to-day, when man supposedly is independent of his environment, his art and architecture seem to feel the effects of nature's presence.

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY

Wireless Telegraphy. By C. L. Fortescue. (Cambridge Manuals.) viii and 143 pp. Ills., index. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1913. 40 cents. 6½ x 5.

The book is written by a physicist who has his subject well in hand.

The first half deals with the mechanics of wireless telegraphy, and discusses a few of the fundamental principles of physics upon which the construction of the instruments is based. The last half presents a very interesting account of the actual rôle of wireless telegraphy to-day. One chapter deals with wireless telephony. This is followed by a brief history of wireless telegraphy beginning with Maxwell's publication of a paper entitled "A Dynamical Theory of the Electromagnetic Field" read before the Royal Society (England) on Dec. 8, 1864. A short bibliography, including 5 French, 3 German and 10 English titles, completes the thesis.

The author in his preface says "A general scientific knowledge is necessary to understand the subject. This knowledge, however, may be very elementary."

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

Die Jute. Ihre Industrie und volkswirtschaftliche Bedeutung. Von Richard Wolff. 147 pp. Diagrams. F. Siemenroth, Berlin, 1913. Mk. 6. 9½ x 6½.

In short space much valuable material is brought together relative to the jute industry. The principal topics are:—uses of jute; experimental cultivation of it in various regions, as in Egypt, China, Kamerun, and the United States; substitutes both natural and artificial; and the industry in general, followed by a specific study of it in India, Scotland, Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, Italy, Russia, Belgium, Sweden, Brazil, Japan and the United States. A full bibliography, a series of large graphs folded in the back of the book, and statistical tables complete the book. While technically the jute industry is eighty years old, the fiber has been utilized locally in India for centuries. India practically controls the world's supply. Experiments carried on in other countries in the hope of making them independent of India, though not always complete failures, have in general failed to accomplish their purpose.

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

Lumber and Its Uses. By R. S. Kellogg. 352 pp. Ills., index. Radford Architectural Co., Chicago, Ill., 1914. \$1. 9 x 6½.

After two chapters of a general nature on the structure of wood and its physical properties, the author treats his subject in a detailed and strictly technical manner. There are chapters upon lumber grades and sizes, seasoning timber and wood preservation, and paving and flooring, all considered minutely.